

Tuesday, June 7, 1955

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

- Both Houses cleared postal pay increase bill for President.
- By 60 to 25, Senate passed Housing Act of 1955, and also cleared bill on veterans' mortgages for President.
- House passed 99 miscellaneous bills.
- Senate Labor Committee reported bill increasing hourly minimum wage.
- House committee defeated motion to approve bill to amend Natural Gas Act.
- Conferees agreed to file report on trade agreements bill.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages 6559-6570

Bills Introduced: 20 bills and 2 resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2154-S. 2174; S. J. Res. 75 and S. Con. Res. 36. Pages 6561-6563

Bills Reported: Reports were made as follows:

S. 92, 135, 187, 1020, 1033, 175, H. R. 1002, 1974, 2236, 903, 1003, 1202, 1400, 1401, 1409, 1640, 1692, 1747, 2456, 2529, 2760, 2907, 3281, 3958, 4249, 4714, 1069, 1416, 1643, and 3045, private bills (S. Repts. 467-496, respectively);

S. 1397, authorizing conveyance of lands on the Turtle Mountain Indian Reservation to St. Mary's Mission, with amendments (S. Rept. 497);

S. 2168, to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 in order to increase the national minimum wage from 75 cents to \$1, and for other purposes (S. Rept. 498);

S. 1878, to extend for 5 years the authority for conveyance of certain lands to Miles City, Mont. (S. Rept. 499); and

S. Res. 106, authorizing additional funds for \$10,000 for the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs (no written report). Page 6561

Postal Pay Increase: Senate concurred in House amendments to S. 2061, to increase the rates of basic compensation of officers and employees in the field service of the Post Office Department, clearing the bill for the White House. Pages 6585-6587

Veterans' Mortgages: Senate concurred in House amendment to S. 654, to extend the authority of the VA Administrator to make direct loans, and to make additional type of direct loans thereunder. This action clears the bill for the President. Pages 6587-6588

Housing: By 60 yeas to 25 nays, Senate passed with amendments S. 2126, Housing Act of 1955, after taking the following actions on amendments thereto:

Adopted: Flanders amendment providing that number of additional dwelling units commenced during fiscal year may be increased by not more than 65,000 or decreased by not more than 85,000 upon a Presidential determination of the general effect thereof on the building industry and the national economy; Monroney amendment providing that interest rates on mortgage contracts under title III (college housing) shall extend to those contracts under which loan funds have not been fully disbursed prior to enactment of this title; Bush amendment increasing by \$135 million authorized mortgages under title VIII (armed services housing mortgage insurance) and to extend title to Coast Guard; Byrd amendment requiring certificate that inspection has indicated compliance with plans and specifications before Secretary of Defense may operate certain military housing; Kuchel amendment authorizing any city where there were 10,000 temporary housing units on March 1, 1953, to purchase the land at fair market value for housing purposes; Bush amendment giving Administrator power to sell to town of Glastonbury, Conn., 199 dwelling units in Welles Village; Stennis amendment respecting market value of land or housing acquired by Secretary of Defense in condemnation proceedings; Sparkman amendment providing for insured loans in farm housing loan program to be purchasable by national banks similarly to Bankhead-Jones Act loans and FIIA loans; and Sparkman amendment providing for appointment of a special assistant for cooperative housing; and

Rejected: By 38 yeas to 44 nays, modified Capewhart amendment increasing by 35,000 each for fiscal years 1955-57 the authorization for additional low-rent hous-

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ing dwelling units, rather than 135,000 units annually as provided in the bill.

Pages 6570-6585, 6588-6591, 6597-6608

Copper Tax: H. R. 5695, to continue until June 30, 1958, suspension of import tax on copper, was made Senate's pending business. Page 6608

Confirmations: Four civilian nominations were confirmed. Page 6613

Program for Wednesday: Senate adjourned at 6:37 p. m. until noon Wednesday, June 8, when it will continue on H. R. 5695, copper tax suspension.

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

FARM PRICE SUPPORT PROGRAM

Committee on Agriculture and Forestry: Continuing its hearings on the farm price support program, committee heard testimony from James G. Patton, president, National Farmers Union, and Herschel D. Newsom, master, National Grange. Hearings continue Thursday, June 9.

APPROPRIATIONS—PUBLIC WORKS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee continued its hearings on fiscal 1956 budget estimates for public works, with testimony from Brig. Gen. E. C. Itchner, Assistant Chief for Civil Works, Col. John U. Allen (who discussed funds for navigational planning), and Brig. Gen. W. E. Potter, division engineer, Missouri River Division (who discussed funds for Missouri River Basin projects), all of the Corps of Engineers, Army. Hearings continue tomorrow.

APPROPRIATIONS—PUBLIC WORKS—INTERIOR DIVISION

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Public Works—Division of Interior—heard further testimony in behalf of funds for the Bonneville Power Administration from W. A. Pearl, Administrator, E. D. Ostrander, Director of Administrative Management, R. L. Conkling, Director of Budget and Management, and M. D. Dubrow, Manager, Washington, D. C., office. Testimony was also heard in behalf of funds for the Southeastern Power Administration from Assistant Secretary of Interior (Water and Power) Fred G. Aandahl, and Charles W. Leavy, Administrator, SEPA; and in behalf of funds for the Southwestern Power Administration from Mr. Aandahl and Douglas G. Wright, Administrator, SWPA.

Hearings were recessed subject to call.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Real Estate and Military Construction continued its hearings, in executive session, on S. 1765, authorizing certain con-

struction at military, naval, and Air Force installations, hearing testimony from Roger W. Fulling, Director of Construction, Office of Secretary of Defense, who submitted supplemental testimony on various items of the bill.

In an afternoon session, also executive, the subcommittee heard Allen Dulles, Director of Central Intelligence, testify with regard to authorizations for construction of a new CIA building. Subcommittee will meet again tomorrow to hear Assistant Secretary of Defense Franklin G. Floete in executive session.

INTERNATIONAL FINANCE

Committee on Banking and Currency: Subcommittee on International Finance concluded its hearings on S. 1984, to provide for the participation of the U. S. in the International Finance Corporation, hearing testimony in favor of the bill from David W. MacEachron, U. S. Council, International Chamber of Commerce; John C. Lynn, legislative director, American Farm Bureau Federation; Robert H. Craft, chairman, foreign investment committee, Investment Bankers Association of America; and Dr. Henry Tenenbaum, Washington Board of Trade. Testifying in opposition to the bill was William S. Swingle, president, National Foreign Trade Council, Inc.

Hearings were adjourned subject to call.

D. C. DELEGATES

Committee on the District of Columbia: Subcommittee on the Judiciary met in executive session for the consideration of H. R. 191, to regulate the election of D. C. delegates to national political conventions, and instructed the staff to draft new language to certain sections of the bill to be considered by the subcommittee at a later date.

RENEGOTIATION

Committee on Finance: Committee began hearings on H. R. 4904, to extend the Renegotiation Act of 1951 for 2 years, hearing testimony from the following witnesses: Secretary of the Air Force Harold E. Talbott; Frank L. Roberts, Chairman, Renegotiation Board; Ross Nichols, National Association of Manufacturers; Walter R. Howell, president, National Association of Finishers of Textile Fabrics; Hugh Rawls, president, Rawls Contractors, Inc.; and William T. Darden, editor and publisher, Reports for Industry.

Hearings continue tomorrow.

PLAN FOR ECONOMIC DISARMAMENT

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee held hearings on S. Res. 71, a proposal to limit the proportion of key resources a nation may use for arms, so that more can be used for civilian goods. Testifying in support of this resolution were Senator Symington, its sponsor, and Samuel Lubell, a newspaper and magazine writer.